



Massachusetts
Department
of
ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION

fact sheet

Hazardous Waste Information for Furniture Manufacturers, Finishers and Refinishers

Massachusetts Law requires companies that produce hazardous waste to store and dispose of this waste in a special manner. Any one, other than a household, who produces, transports, recycles, treats or disposes of hazardous waste must notify the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) and meet certain requirements as specified in the hazardous waste regulations [310 CMR 30.000].

This fact sheet provides highlights of the regulations and will assist you in completing the Application for EPA Identification Number, or DEP Registration Form, if you are a Very Small Quantity Generator and/or Small Quantity Generator of used oil.

Definition of a hazardous waste:

Federal and state hazardous waste laws define waste as "hazardous" if it is ignitable (has a flash point of 140° F or less), corrosive (ph of less than 2.5 or greater than 12.5), reactive, or toxic (as determined by a laboratory test). Other wastes are listed by name in the regulations.

Typical hazardous wastes from furniture manufacturing or finishing:

Ignitable wastes:

- Stripping sludges
- Rags and other cleanup materials contaminated with paint, lacquer, solvent or sludge
- Spent dipping solutions, such as methylene chloride
- Nitrocellulose overspray and residue (gun cotton)
- Surplus or off-spec paints, lacquers, solvents

Corrosive wastes:

- Spent acid or alkaline baths

Some rinsewaters may also be hazardous and should not be put down the drain. No rinsewaters can be disposed down the drain to a septic system without a permit.

Highlights of the Massachusetts Hazardous Waste Regulations [310 CMR 30.000]

As a generator of hazardous waste you can be liable for any clean-up costs resulting from mismanagement of your waste, at your location, while it is in transit or at the receiving facility. To comply with the regulations and to decrease your risks:

- Identify and count the volume of your hazardous waste
- Store each type of waste in a separate container
- Keep containers closed except to add or remove waste
- Label each container or tank with:
 - HAZARDOUS WASTE
 - THE NAME OF THE WASTE
 - TYPE OF HAZARD

Add the date accumulation began if you are not a Very Small Generator.

- Train your employees to handle hazardous wastes safely
- Report spills of hazardous waste and hazardous materials to DEP

- Ship your waste with a licensed hazardous waste transporter (*If you qualify as a Very Small Quantity Generator, you may be able to bring your waste to a community hazardous waste collection.*)
- Keep records of where it goes for at least 3 years

Your generator “status” is determined by the amount of hazardous waste you generate in a month’s time:

Very Small Quantity Generator (VSQG) – less than 27 gallons a month
 Small Quantity Generator (SQG) –27 – 270 gallons a month
 Large Quantity Generator (LQG) – more than 270 gallons a month

Consult the Summary of Requirements for Small Quantity Generators for more details.

Completing the Application for EPA Identification Number:

SIC (Standard Industrial Classification)

<u>Type of Business</u>	<u>SIC</u>
Built-in cabinets	2434
Carpentry	1751
Free-standing cabinets	5712
Furniture stripping	7641
Household furniture	2511
Office furniture	2521
Millwork	2431
Wood preserving	2491
Wood products	2499

Waste Codes (Section C of the EPA application)

Ignitable wastes	D001
Corrosive wastes	D002
Surplus lacquers, solvents	F003, F005

For more information:

Consult DEP’s Web site (www.mass.gov/dep/bwp/dhm/dhmpubs.htm#fact) for additional information including a *Summary of Requirements for Small Quantity Generators* and a *List of Licensed Hazardous Waste Transporters*.

If your shop is on a septic system, consult DEP’s industrial wastewater program at (617)292-5503 for information about holding tanks and containers.

Call the Business Compliance Assistance Line at (617)292-5898 for help.

To report a spill of oil or hazardous material, call DEP’s Emergency Response line at (888) 304-1133.

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Produced by the
 Bureau of Waste Prevention
 Business Compliance Division,
 March 2002.
 Printed on recycled paper.

This information is available in
 alternate format by calling our
 ADA Coordinator at
 (617) 574-6872.

